

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 9, please amend the last paragraph as follows:

The prices are plotted in FIG. 5 for store 1 (504), store 2 (508), store 3 (512), and store 4 (516) with the price of item X plotted along the horizontal axis and the price of item Y plotted along the vertical axis. A distance may be calculated by:

$$\text{Distance} = \sqrt{(\text{Price}_{s,x} - \text{Price}_{s,x})^2 + (\text{Price}_{s,y} - \text{Price}_{s,y})^2}, \text{ where } s \text{ is for one of the stores}$$

$$\text{Distance} = \sqrt{(\text{Price}_{s1,x} - \text{Price}_{s2,x})^2 + (\text{Price}_{s1,y} - \text{Price}_{s2,y})^2}, \text{ where } s1 \text{ and } s2 \text{ is}$$

one of the store pairs. This distance may be calculated between all possible store pair combinations. Table 2 illustrates the distances for all pairings.